

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 138-147 with the following rewritten claims:

138. [AMENDED] A clear aqueous solution comprising;

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- (i) a first material selected from the group consisting of a bile acid, an aqueous soluble derivative of a bile acid, a bile acid salt, a bile acid conjugated with an amine by an amide linkage, and combinations thereof;
- (ii) a second material selected from the group consisting of an aqueous soluble starch conversion product and/or an aqueous soluble non-starch polysaccharide; and
- (iii) water,

wherein the first and second materials both remain in solution for all pH values of the solution within a selected range of pH values and the solution is free of alcohol.

139. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138, wherein the solution is selected from the group consisting of a syrup, a thick syrup, and a paste.

140. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138, wherein the first material is selected from the group consisting of ursodeoxycholic acid, chenodeoxycholic acid, cholic acid, hyodeoxycholic acid, deoxycholic acid, 7-oxolithocholic acid, lithocholic acid, iododeoxycholic acid, iocholic acid, taouroursodeoxycholic acid, taurochenodeoxycholic acid, taurodeoxycylic acid, glycoursoodeoxycholic acid, taurocholic acid, glycocholic acid, their derivatives at a hydroxyl or carboxylic acid group on the steroid nucleus, their salts, or their conjugates with amines.

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141. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138, wherein the second material is selected from the group consisting of maltodextrin, dextrin, corn syrup, corn syrup solid, soluble starch, and dextrans.

142. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138, wherein the solution comprises one or more additional bile acids, aqueous soluble derivatives of bile acid, bile acid salts, and amine-conjugated bile acids conjugated by an amide linkage.

143. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent having anti-inflammatory activity.

144. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent having analgesic activity.

145. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent having anticonvulsant activity.

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146. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent having prolonging survival time in hypoxic conditions.

147. [AMENDED] The solution of Claim 138 further comprising an agent capable of alleviating or ameliorating a condition selected from the group consisting of stomatitis, gingivoglossitis and toothache.

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Please **add** new claims 148-151 as follows:

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148. [NEW] A clear aqueous solution comprising:

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(a) a first material selected from the group consisting of a bile acid, an aqueous soluble derivative of a bile acid, a bile acid salt, and a bile acid conjugated with an amine by an amide linkage;

(b) a second material comprising an aqueous soluble starch conversion product; and

(c) water,

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wherein the first and second materials both remain in solution for all pH values of the solution within a selected range of pH values and wherein the weight ratio of the second material to the first material is less than about 30:1.

149. [NEW] A clear aqueous solution comprising:

(a) a first material selected from the group consisting of a bile acid, an aqueous soluble derivative of a bile acid, a bile acid salt, and a bile acid conjugated with an amine by an amide linkage;

(b) a second material comprising an aqueous soluble starch conversion product; and

(c) water,

wherein the first and second materials both remain in solution for all pH values of the solution within a selected range of pH values and wherein the

concentration of the first material is more than about 1.17% (W/W).

150. [NEW] A clear aqueous solution comprising:

(a) a first material selected from the group consisting of a bile acid, an aqueous soluble derivative of a bile acid, a bile acid salt, and a bile acid conjugated with an amine by an amide linkage;

(b) a second material comprising an aqueous soluble starch conversion product; and

(c) water,

wherein the first and second materials both remain in solution for all pH values of the solution within a selected range of pH values and wherein the concentration of the second material is more than about 35 % (W/W).

151. [NEW] An aqueous solution comprising:

(a) a first material selected from the group consisting of an aqueous soluble derivative of a bile acid, a bile acid salt, a bile acid

conjugated with an amine by an amide linkage, and  
combinations thereof;

*[Signature]*

- (b) a second material comprising an aqueous soluble starch conversion product; and
- (c) water,

wherein the first and second materials both remain in solution for all pH values of the solution within a selected range of pH values.

